Sale of Boeing 747-200 Aircrafts by Air India

3519. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board of Air India has approved the sale of two Boeing 747-200 aircrafts; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two B 747-200 aircraft were to be phased out in 1993-94 when Air India inducted four B 747-400 aircraft into its fleet.

'Monsoon Magic Offer' by Air India

3520. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the exact date on which the 'Monsoon Magic Offer' of Air India was made applicable;

(b) what is the reason for not having written the exact date in offer literature;

(c) whether this amounts to a malafide intention to deceive prospective clients; and

(d) if so, what action is proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) 24th June, 1996.

(b) and (c) There was no media advertisement of the scheme. However, Air India dispatched mailers to the travel trade, corporate houses, members of Maharaja Club, Executive Club and Frequent Flyer Programme giving details of the scheme.

(d) Does not arise.

Supersession of Air India Employees

3521. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) since nationalisation of Air India to 1.8.1996, how many employees had been superseded and what are the details thereof;

(b) what are the specific reasons of these supersessions in detail;

(c) how many employees belong to general and SC/ST category and what are the details thereof; and

(d) what actions are being taken to avoid superssions?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (d) The requisite details since the inception of Air India in 1953 are not available. However, during last five years (from 1.1.1991 to 31.12.1995), 1302 employees including 829 general category employees, 400 SC employees and 73 ST employees, were superseded. The supersessions were mainly on the grounds of officers and staff not fulfilling the laid down criteria for promotion.

Tourism Projects in Orissa Waiting Clearance

3522. SHRIMATI ILA PANDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tourism projects of Orissa waiting for the Central Government clearance;

(b) whether the department of tourism has identified any new area for development of tourism in Orissa; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SHRIKANTA JENA): (a) The Department of Tourism in consultation with State/U.T. Governments identifies toursim projects for providing central

financial assistance every year. They are prioritised for sanction subject to the availability of funds and feasibility of proposals.

(b)and (c) The State Government through a resolution dated 17.8.96 has constituted a Special Tourism Authority. The State Government is developing a Special Tourism Area towards the south of the Puri town over an area of 3500 Acres (Approximately) extending upto Chilika Lake. The special tourism area is planned to be a premier International tourist destination and will provide all facilities such as hotel accomodation, air strip, golf course, amusement parks, convention centre, handicraft emporia etc. over a compact area to attract tourists in large numbers. The State Government has resolved to constitute the Special Tourism Authority, Puri which will act as an apex body in the State for formulation of general guidelines and principles for overall promotion of tourism in the Special Tourism Area.

Backlog for SC/STs in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for various Post

3523. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reserved posts meant for Scheduled Castes, Schaduled Tribes and other Backward Communities have been filled up during the last 3 years and till date in his Ministry;

(b) whether any backlong of posts reserved for them still remain unfilled; and

(c) if so, by when that backlong is expected to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) As for as vacancies meant for SCs, STs and OBCs, filled by promotion in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs are concerned, these were filled by the candidates from the respective categories during the last three years and till date as and when vacancies arose. However, when eligible candidates belonging to these categories were not available, those vacanceies were dereserved and reservations carried forward to the subsequent Recruitment Years. Regarding reserved vacancies filled by direct recruitment, there is a ban on de-reserving and the Ministry has no power for de-reserving the vacancies and the unfilled reserved vacancies are treated as backlong vacancies. As such, there are two backlong vacancies (SC-1 & ST-1) in Group 'B' posts and two backlong vacancies have already been reported to SSC for inclusion in the Special Recruitment Drive, 1996. These vacancies will be filled up on receipt of nominations from Staff Selection Commission.

Revenue Scam in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

3524. SHRI MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a revenue scam in a land racket has been detected in Varanasi, U.P.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE & MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI. P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes Sir, As per news paper reports certain irregularities in land transactions in Varanasi have been detected by local District Revenue Authorities.

(b) It is alleged that land in six villages namely Ranipur, Patiya, Bajardiha, Kakarmatta, Tulsipur and Newada was acquired by the District Land revenue Authorities .and the revenue rights on these lands was entered in the name of U.P. Awas Vikas Parishad. On the above